

NEWS RELEASE

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SBA to Revisit Size Standard Proposal

Agency Responds to Customer Comments by Re-Examining Rule

WASHINGTON – The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) today announced that it is withdrawing proposed rules that would have changed the standards by which a business is designated 'small' for the purposes of government programs.

"Administrator Barreto has worked hard to make the SBA more like the small businesses it serves every day, and that means being responsive to our customers," SBA Associate Deputy Administrator for Government Contracting Allegra McCullough said. "That is why we have decided to revisit this issue. All new rules have a 60 day comment period. Because we knew this issue was so important to America's small business owners, we actually extended that period to 105 days. During that time, we strongly encouraged our small business customers to contact us with their thoughts on the revisions. They did just that, and what they told us was, 'good intention, good idea, but needs a little more work.'

"We are here to serve those small business owners, and we take their concerns very seriously," McCullough continued. "That is why we are going to step back and study this rule further. There is no doubt that our current system of size standards is in need of simplification, but we want to make absolutely sure that we do it in the right way. This issue is important to our mission, and it's important to America's small business owners."